

these towns can withstand the allied attack very long.

North of the Somme the Germans are continuing their retreat, although greatly hampered by the airman of the Allies. These fliers report the movement of the Germans and also drop bombs on the railroads and bridges which the Germans are using in their withdrawal movement. More bridges were reported destroyed across the Somme to-day, and the allied aviators also brought the information that the Germans are burning stores and destroying positions which would be of advantage to the Allies when they move up in pursuit of the retreating Germans.

70,000 Total or Prisoners.

The Echo de Paris reports that since the start of the allied counter offensive on July 18 more than 1,000 guns have been captured from the enemy. It also estimates that upward of 10,000 machine guns have been taken, besides large quantities of supplies and ammunition.

The British war office to-night announced that the prisoners captured by the First French army exceeded 25,000 and included 800 officers, of whom eight were regimental commanders and more than 800 guns.

Concerning the operations of the day Berlin contents itself with the announcement that "on the battlefield between the Ancre and the Aves the morning was quiet."

The Associated Press correspondent with the French army says that the German forces momentarily have slowed down on the battle of the French toward Noyon. The enemy is now standing on the old line west of Roye and Lassigny, in which he stood from the autumn of 1914 to the summer of 1915. In this region the old fortifications and wire entanglements still remain.

Fought in Gas Masks.

There was sharp fighting yesterday on the heights of the Somme, particularly in Loges Wood, which was captured at noon after it had been drenched with gas. The division that carried the woods fought in gas masks all the morning. In the afternoon the German counter-attack and recaptured the woods.

The task of the French in this region is extremely difficult, as the Germans know the ground thoroughly, have all the ranges and have brought up heavy guns to replace their enormous losses in field artillery. They also have massed machine guns in all of the numerous favorable positions they still hold on the plateau that protects the road to Noyon. The German stand there is vital. If this key to Noyon falls the enemy's retreat would become difficult.

Battle Near End of First Phase.

The stabilization of the line on the old Roye-Lassigny front is considered as the closing feature of the first phase of the battle of the Aves. The second phase awaits only the arrival of needed reinforcements and material. Reports from aviators make it clear that the German front is indestructible. Every counter-attack constitutes an admirable target for the allied aviators.

Aviators, after serving to replace heavy artillery by bombing front areas, are now adding the infantry and cavalry. When these units are attacked at machine gun nests, airmen flying low drive the gunners from their posts. Then the infantry or cavalry rush in and capture the guns before the enemy can resume the fight. All through the battle the Allies appear to have been masters of the air over the battlefield. Few German machines have crossed the line and of these not many have got back.

GERMANS REPORT BIG REPULSE OF BRITISH

Columns Mowed Down in Picardy, Berlin Despatch.

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 13.—The German semi-official press in a despatch to Berlin forwarded here yesterday the following account of British operations during the third day of the offensive in Picardy:

"On the third day of the offensive, during a British attack north of the Somme on both sides of the Roman highway, British attacks were fought from the north in a banking fire of shrapnel from German batteries situated on the heights east of Albert, while from the south of this position the British were hidden in the woods on the steep banks of the Somme river, tore wide gaps in the attacking ranks and finally forced them to retire."

"The English fared no better south of the river. On both sides of the Roman road the advancing British infantry again were taken under the shelling of the weak German detachments, which were behind the steep banks of the Somme, where they could not be reached by the British artillery fire. The British attackers of Proyart encountered the defenders who already had found cover in advanced gaps of the old French defense systems, while the English attacking waves were caught without protection on the bare plateau by the German fire."

"On the rectilinear Roman road enemy cavalry detachments ready for pursuit mowed down rear guard infantry reserves and machine gun formations were crowded together. Among this compact mass of men and horses the German shells worked terrible havoc, while our low flying airplanes pelted the road with machine gun bullets. In the fearful confusion the English reserves who had been confident of speedy further progress and had been pushed forward too far were forced to retire."

GERMANY GRABS FOOD.

Austria Gets Short Nations in Division of Ukraine Prospects.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Aug. 13.—Germany and Austria are about to conclude a new treaty regarding the importation of food products from the occupied territories of the East.

An agreement on the method of dividing the foodstuffs from the Ukraine already has been reached, according to a Frankfurt despatch, and the Germans will be favored, both in quantities and prices.

Austria, originally the favored party, has a bone to throw to her in the negotiations in the form of a stipulation that she is to get Ukrainian food at prices less than she agreed to pay in a treaty drawn previous to the signing of the Ukrainian peace pact.

Austria therefore saves a little money, but Germany gets the bulk of the food.

2 GERMAN GENERALS RETIRED.

Von Mudra, Beaten by Gouraud, and Liebrecht, Ousted.

PARIS, Aug. 13.—Gen. von Mudra and Gen. Liebrecht, who commanded German armies in the offensive which began July 15, have been placed on the retired list, according to Berlin newspapers which have been received here.

Gen. von Mudra was one of the German commanders during the Verdun fighting in 1916. He was decorated by Emperor William for his services then. In the offensive July 15 he was in command of the German armies attacking along the Champagne front between Prunay and Triaucourt. His attack was met by Gen. Gouraud and was repulsed everywhere. Gen. Liebrecht was not mentioned in the despatches telling of the fighting during July. He was, however, formerly commander of the Fifth Division of Prussian Grenadiers. He became a General April 18, 1913.

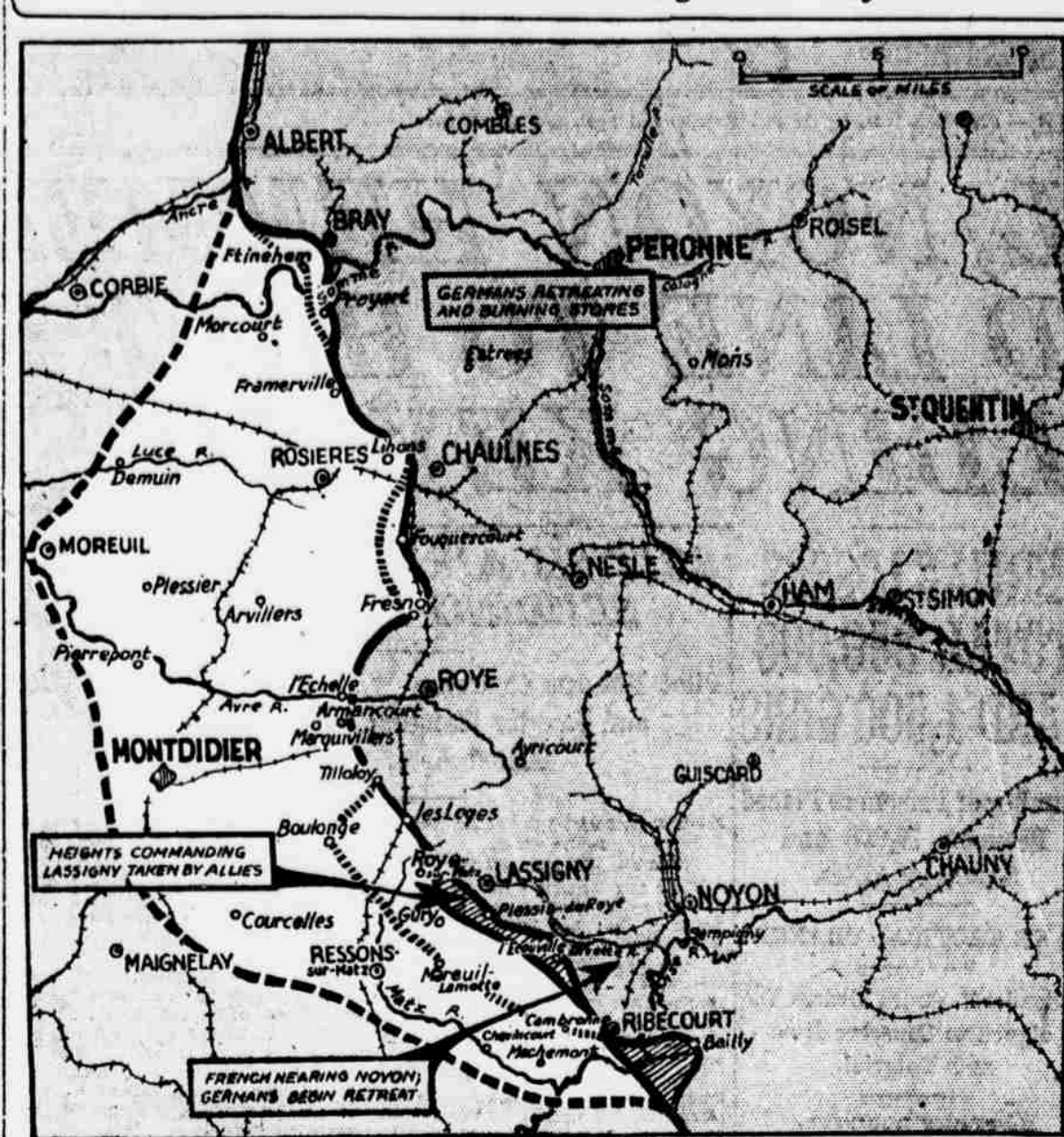
U-Boat Sinks British Destroyer.

London, Aug. 13.—A British torpedo boat destroyer was sunk by an enemy submarine in the Mediterranean August 9. Seven of the destroyer's complement were lost.

5,000 Women Recruits Needed.

London, Aug. 13.—Recruiting has begun for a "pal" battalion of the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps for service with the American Expeditionary Force. Five thousand women are needed, and women who are friends are invited to enlist together.

How French Forces Are Closing In on Noyon.



FRENCH forces continued their sweep toward Noyon yesterday, and although the gains of ground were not large, they were of immense strategic value. Lassigny Massif, commanding the town itself; Plessis-de-Roye, to the south of Lassigny, and L'Ecouvilly, also to the south, fell to the French forces, giving them command of the Divette River, which approaches close to Noyon, and giving them also posts for their artillery to shell that town, an important German base. In fact the heights captured by the French yesterday formed the key to their positions in the Noyon sector, and as soon as the French can bring their artillery into place Noyon will be shelled. Possession of the town will be almost impossible for the Germans then and retreat will be difficult, for the French artillery will be in position to sweep the roads leading from the town. Along the Oise valley, which leads into Noyon, the French also advanced in the vicinity of Cambromme, to the north of the river, and at Bailly, south of the river, which town was captured. The Germans already are reported to have started a retrograde movement in the Oise valley, an indication that Noyon will be given up later.

OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE BATTLES.

LONDON, Aug. 13.—Following are the official reports of the fighting in France and Flanders:

FRENCH (NIGHT)—During the day our troops resumed their attacks in the wooded region between the Matz and the Oise. In spite of strong enemy resistance we succeeded in making progress to the north and east of Gury. We have gained a footing in the park of Plessier de Roye and reclaimed Balval. Further east we have advanced our lines about two kilometers to the north of the village of Cambromme.

FRENCH (DAY)—There were no events of importance reported during the course of the night on the battle front.

Several enemy raids in the Vosges and upper Alsace were without result.

BRITISH (NIGHT)—On the battle front, except for somewhat increased hostile artillery activity, the day has passed comparatively quiet. We have captured a few prisoners at different points.

On the remainder of the British front some raiding and patrol activity is reported south of the Scarpe, northeast of Robercq, and in the neighborhood of Vieux-Berquin.

The number of prisoners captured by the French First Army and the British Fourth Army since the morning of the eighth instant exceeds 28,000. Among them are 800 officers, including eight regimental commanders. In the same period these armies have taken about 600 German guns, including many guns of heavy calibre, and also several thousand machine guns and numerous trench mortars.

The material captured includes three complete trains and vast stocks of engineering and other stores.

BRITISH (DAY)—On the battle front our troops effected further improvements in their positions north of the Roye road and on the north bank of the Somme and captured additional prisoners.

A local attack made by the enemy in the neighborhood of Fouquencourt was repulsed.

We captured a few prisoners last night in patrol encounters south of the Scarpe (Arras front) and in the neighborhood of Vieux-Berquin (Flanders).

A hostile attack against our positions in the Merris sector was repulsed after sharp fighting.

GERMAN (DAY)—South of Ypres early in the morning there was violent artillery fighting. Under our fire enemy attacks were unable to develop. South of Merris frequently repeated English partial attacks were repulsed. There was forefired fighting on both sides of La Bassee Canal and between the Scarpe and Andre rivers.

On the battlefield between the Ancre and the Aves the morning was quiet.

South of the Somme the enemy attacked in the afternoon on both sides of the Roman road, running from Foucancourt to Villers-Bretonneux. He was repulsed.

North of the Amiens-Roye road we drove back strong enemy attacks in the evening. Between the Aves and the Oise there was violent fighting during the day, with partially fresh brought up French divisions. Strong forces attacked in the morning south of the Aves as well as between Tilloloy and north of Elincourt. They collapsed before our line. At isolated points we repulsed them by counter thrusts.

Between Tilloloy and Canny and west and southwest of Lassigny the enemy continued his attacks until late in the evening. South of Tilloloy on five occasions weak forces were thrust forward from the region of the Matz. We drove the enemy back and very frequently his attacks were held up by our concentrated artillery fire.

North and east of Fiamas a local undertaking was successful. It resulted in prisoners being brought in.

Yesterday twenty-nine enemy airplanes were shot down.

79 AIRPLANES DOWNED IN DAY ALLIED ARMIES' TASK EASIER.

British Bag 29, French 11, German 20 in Heavy Fighting.

LONDON, Aug. 13.—Seventy-nine airplanes were put out of commission in the heavy aerial fighting of yesterday, according to the reports from the various war offices to-day.

The British report that they destroyed thirty-two and sent seven more down out of control, and the French give the day's total as eleven. The Germans admit that they brought down twenty-nine machines.

The British statement on air fighting also admits the loss of twelve machines. Railroad stations behind the German lines were bombed.

Foch's Strategy Renders Impossible Any Rupture of His Force.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, AUG. 13.—After the battle of the Aves, the situation of the belligerents presents a change which for rapidity and extent has rarely been approached in military history. Marshal Foch's strategy and the mastery tactics of the Generals commanding the armies and groups of armies under him have in three weeks wrested from the Germans what required four months for them to obtain at a cost variously estimated at from 700,000 to 1,000,000 men.

FOCH OUTMATCHES TEUTONIC TACTICS

Pearly Victory Notable for Great Moral Effect as Foe Has No Excuse.

BERLIN TO ALTER POLICY

Expert Gives Tanks and Aircraft Credit for Growing Usefulness in Battle.

By H. SIDEROTHAM.

One of the Foremost Military Critics of Europe.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun from the London Times.

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LONDON, Aug. 13.—The importance of our pearly victory is not so much geographical as moral. For once the German newspapers give a better idea of our victory than does the map. Heretofore when the Germans suffered reverses they had some catchword to comfort them and sustain their hopes for victory. This time they were caught without one.

Their strategy was clearly a transitional stage from the ideas with which Ludendorff began his offensive in March to some new ideas the nature of which has not yet been revealed, and which we can only surmise. The recent German raids on the Italian front are an example of the way in which these new ideas are being tested. Doubtless these raids have helped the allied staff to answer these and other questions. The greater part of war is to find out what is happening on the other side of the hill, and undoubtedly some revelation is in process in the German military policy of which we do not yet have the key.

Seemly Policy in Germany.

That policy from the beginning of the war has been a series of compromises and concessions to the politicians of the Bethmann-Hollweg and Von Kuhlmann type on the one hand and the old and young bulls of the German military on the other. The politicians lately have favored the easier campaigns and the easier victories as a means for putting the war to bed for the moment. The military, however, have caught them "on the hop," as they say in Lancashire.

Apart from the tremendous advantage we have gained from our victory, we have the lessons of the allied victory. The Germans complain that the numerical superiority of the Allies was not so great as the victory of the Allies. Our victory was not so much a victory of numbers as a victory of mind.

The main tactical causes of our victory were the superiority of our air service and our small tanks. The victory of both may fairly be called a victory of mind. Before the war the Germans believed in airships; we and our allies in airplanes, and now we see the airship rapidly becoming obsolete. Not only that, but we have developed airplane tactics far superior to the air tactics of the enemy. With us it is not merely a reconnaissance and bombing machine, it is a machine working in close harmony with our infantry and artillery, and a machine for attacking enemy communications.

Progress in Air Fighting.

This is a work which requires extraordinary qualities of personnel. In this as in previous battles, the cooperation of air and ground forces has been a factor in our success. The German high command would risk sending an expedition of any size into Russia.

Fly From Mineola to Dayton.

DAYTON, Ohio, Aug. 13.—Major C. K. Rhinehart and Capt. Fred Harvey, flying from Mineola, N. Y., reached here at 10:20 o'clock to-night, reporting an uneventful trip.

400 INTERNED GERMANS ILL.

Typhoid Develops Among Sailors at Hot Springs, N. C.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Aug. 13.—Four hundred well defined cases of typhoid fever have developed among the 2,200 interned Germans at Hot Springs, N. C., and other cases are under observation.

Military authorities in charge have asked for the aid of the United States hospitals. Hot Springs residents maintain that the Germans have been kept from drinking contaminated river water, the purpose being to prevent the carrying out of a government order to move the camp to a less pleasant location in Georgia.

RICE RIOTS IN JAPAN.

Women Lead Attacks, Calling Breakers "Enemies of the Poor."

By the Associated Press.

TOKYO, Aug. 13.—The soaring price of rice has caused great distress among the poorer classes throughout Japan. Riots led by women occurred in various places. Several persons were wounded in the disorders.

WEST BEATING EAST IN SHIP BUILDING

Schwab Puzzled at Failure to Keep Up Pace Here.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 13.—Charles M. Schwab, Director-General of shipbuilding, called a meeting to-day of Atlantic coast shipbuilders for next Monday in this city, at which immediate steps will be taken to speed up ship production in the Eastern yards.

"Everything is moving along well in the Eastern yards," Mr. Schwab said, "but for some reason they are not producing the ships as fast as the Western and great lake yards. The yards in the East are being supplied with all the steel necessary to keep them working at full capacity and we are at a loss fully to explain their failure to keep pace with the yards of the West."

FRENCH FORCE OUT MACHINE GUN NESTS

Continued from First Page.

In this way one body of French troops pushed forward to Bois de Thiescourt, while the other worked up the plateau to St. Claude farm, southeast of Moreuil, on the Lassigny road.

These last units first surrounded the Hill Vignemont, close to Marquellies on the Roye Railway. A little further they took Le Miesmier and soon afterward they surrounded Hill 160 and carried the Bellinghies, and finally made a rush for the farm. It all called for difficult fighting. The enemy made one or two counter attacks, but they were beaten off.

Further north the Germans are keeping up a concentrated fire on our lines at Grivillers and Marquillies with the object of delaying our squeezing operations as long as possible. The disorder of the first stages of the retreat has been arrested, owing to the arrival of reinforcements, or divisions brought from behind the lines and which were not thrown into confusion by our first surprising attack. We cannot expect that our attack will again become a pursuit, but that the enemy will, after a short pause, fall back to the 1916 line is practically certain.

AMERICAN ACTION WINS OTHER NATIONS

Bulgaria Said to Be in Political Turmoil.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun from the London Times.

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LONDON, Aug. 13.—The fact that American reinforcements will prevent Germany from gaining a military victory is having an extraordinary effect, apart from the open dismay suggested by comment in German newspapers, is seen by secret agents of the Government in a number of men connected with aircraft work under constant surveillance for many weeks. Any whom the evidence indicates the Government might want, as a witness or otherwise, is certain to be available.

Austrians Reported in West.

Paris Journal Receives News With Skepticism.

PARIS, Aug. 13.—The Echo de Paris says it has been informed that Emperor Charles of Austria in response to a frantic request from his German ally for aid, has sent a division of troops to the western front. This report is received with skepticism.

There was another report that an Austrian division had been sent to Belgium preparatory to a later appearance in the German front line. There has been no confirmation.

From Geneva comes a report the Austrians are moving great quantities of material and large numbers of troops in the direction of Italy. The Swiss writer expects a new Austrian offensive against Italy in the near future. The Austrian frontier has been closed since Saturday—a precaution that was taken previous to the other Austrian offensive.

Camp Lee to Be Enlarged.

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 13.—A contract for enlarging Camp Lee, near Petersburg, has been awarded to the John T. Wilson Company, Inc., of Richmond. The work will cost between \$5,000,000 and \$6,000,000. About 75,000 men at Camp Lee, many using tents.

Jeff Davis's Son in Class 1.

Arkansas Politician Taken Out of Deferred List.

Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 13.—Wallace Davis, Arkansas member of the Democratic National Committee, was placed in Class 1 of the draft by a local board to-day after orders had been received from Gen. Crowder to reopen his case. The local board placed Davis in Class 1 of the draft by a local board to-day after orders had been received from Gen. Crowder to reopen his case.

Berlin Accepts U. S. Proposal.

Conference on Exchange of Prisoners Will Be Held.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Formal acceptance by Germany of the American proposal for a conference on treatment and exchange of prisoners at Bern, Switzerland, "the middle of September" was transmitted to the State Department to-day through the Spanish Foreign Office.

The German Government already had accepted the proposal in principle, and though no line had been fixed the United States appointed delegates headed by Minister Garrett at The Hague to attend the conference. Questions relating to interned civilians also will be discussed.

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BROKAW BROTHERS

1457-1463 BROADWAY AT FORTY-SECOND STREET

AIR QUIZ FINDINGS OUTLINED TO WILSON

Report of Investigation Will Go to President by End of Month.

GREGORY FINISHES TRIP

No Possibility of Guilty Escaping if Criminal Action Results.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—President Wilson received a brief outline of developments in the aircraft investigation of the Department of Justice from Attorney-General Gregory following the Cabinet meeting to-day. The Attorney-General has just returned after a month in Detroit, Chicago, Buffalo and other aircraft producing centers, sitting, with Charles E. Hughes and the other investigators, at a field conference.

The report of the investigation probably will be placed in the President's hands before the end of the month, the Attorney-General stated after the meeting. He would not discuss any of the developments, particularly those which kept the investigators at the Curtis plant for ten days or more longer than the scheduled time. It was reported that facts of sensational interest had been developed there, but these reports are without official confirmation.

Mr. Hughes returned here to-night and hearings will be resumed at the Department of Justice to-morrow. It is known that secret agents of the Government are still at the Curtis plant, but it is hoped to close up the taking of testimony within a week so that the report can be prepared for the President. No statements with respect to developments or the findings will be made until the President sees to give them out. He instructed the Department of Justice to make inquiry into allegations of malversation of funds or other law violations, and the report will be as confidential as the proceedings.

U. S. KEEPS HANDS OFF TROLLEY LINES

Wilson Rules He Has No Power Over Them.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—The Government will not take over and operate city utilities, traction or lighting concerns. The nation's policy was made plain to the President to-day in a letter to Mayor Behrman of New Orleans, who appeals to the President for Government aid and action in his city, where traction and strikes have interfered with operations.

"The President asks me to acknowledge your important telegram of yesterday and to express his opinion that as the existing law is interpreted the Federal Government has no power to take over electrical railways and lighting companies."

The conditions under which such companies operate in different parts of the country vary so widely a margin that no common rule, it would appear, and it is the President's judgment that it is imperatively necessary that local and State authorities should take the action necessary for immediate relief."

AIR RAID DAMAGES KARLSRUHE

Railway Station, Arsenal, Palace and Church Bombed.

GENEVA, Aug. 13.—Details received here concerning the recent British aerial bombardment of Karlsruhe say that the northern portion of the station was seriously damaged, as also was the arsenal, where there was a heavy explosion.

One bomb exploded on the wing of the palace of the Grand Duchess Sophie, killing or injuring several valets and servants. A second fell near a cannon factory, which, however, escaped injury. A third smashed the windows of the principal church of the city while a fourth was filled with worshippers, who did a panic. Many were injured.

The Germans admit that eleven persons were killed and twenty-six injured. Up to the present no train from Karlsruhe has arrived at Basel since the raid. A despatch from Frankfurt says that, despite a timely alarm, several persons were killed and material damage was done, especially in the streets of Frankfurt, during the British air raid of Monday.

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